

Message Text

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ACTION STR-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10
INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00
AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-11 SP-02 SOE-02
OMB-01 DOE-15 OIC-02 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-11
/169 W

-----015246 301918Z /47

P 301913Z MAY 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0233
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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USMTN

ACTION STR PASS ELECTRICALLY

STR PASS CODEL

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MTN, ETRD, CA
SUBJECT: U.S.-CANADA BILATERAL ON RAILWAY EQUIPMENT
TARIFFS

REF: GENEVA 8009

1. AS PART OF BILATERAL SESSION ON TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT MAY 17 REPORTED REFTTEL, U.S. DEL RAISED U.S. INTEREST IN SECURING IMPROVEMENTS IN MOST OF THE CANADIAN TARIFF POSITIONS IN RAILWAY EQUIPMENT SECTOR. CANADA SAID IT COULD CONSIDER A MOVE TOWARD GENERALLY HARMONIZED RATES (WHICH WOULD MEAN A SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT IN THE CANADIAN OFFER) BUT ONLY ON CONDITION THAT TWO U.S. NON-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TARIFF MEASURES BE SATISFACTORILY RESOLVED.

2. CANADIAN DEL COMPLAINED ABOUT TWO NTM'S, BOTH OF WHICH WERE PREVIOUSLY INCLUDED IN CANADA'S NTM REQUEST ON THE U.S. CANADA SAID THE MOST IMPORTANT IS THE PROBLEM OF RE-CURRING DUTIES PAID ON CANADIAN ROLLING STOCK WHEN IT RE-ENTERED THE U.S. AFTER HAVING ALREADY PAID A U.S. DUTY

WHEN IT PREVIOUSLY HAD BEEN DIVERTED FROM INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC TO DOMESTIC SERVICE. THIS PRACTICE MADE IT DIFFICULT TO SELL CANADIAN EQUIPMENT, ACCORDING TO THE CANADA DEL. THE OTHER NTM RELATES TO PER DIEM CHARGES ON CANADIAN-OWNED CARS REQUIRED BY ICC REGULATIONS. DETAILS ON THIS PRACTICE WERE CONTAINED IN THE CANADIAN NTM SUBMISSION. THE U.S. DEL SAID THAT WE WOULD INVESTIGATE THE POSSIBILITY OF SPECIFIC ACTION ON THESE REQUESTS BOTH OF WHICH HAVE BEEN LISTED IN OUR NTM RESPONSE AS NEGOTIABLE. WE CALLED ATTENTION TO A CANADIAN NTM WHICH MADE IT DIFFICULT FOR U.S. COMPANIES WHO SPECIALIZED IN CLEARING RAILWAY ROADBEDS OF WEEDS TO BRING IN THEIR SPECIALLY-EQUIPPED RAILWAY CARS ON A TEMPORARY BASIS. THE U.S. ALSO NOTED THAT CERTAIN OF THE CANADIAN TARIFF LINES CONTAINED "MADE IN CANADA" NOTATIONS WHICH SHOULD BE ELIMINATED WHEREVER POSSIBLE.

3. COMMENT: DEL BELIEVES THAT THERE IS A GOOD CHANCE OF ACHIEVING TARIFF HARMONIZATION IN THIS SECTOR, AND REMOVING THE CANADIAN NTM CITED ABOVE. WE WILL NEED TO FORMULATE SPECIFIC PROPOSALS AS TO HOW WE WOULD PLAN TO DEAL WITH THE NTM'S RAISED BY CANADA.

4. DRAFTED BY HAMERSCHLAG. MCDONALD

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